

Appl. No. 10/800,438
Amdt. dated March 6, 2006
Reply to Office action of December 5, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 remain in this application.

Regarding the 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph rejection of claims 14, 19, and 20, Applicant notes that in the case of the embodiment depicted in Figure 5 possessing lead inserts, wires, and lead connectors, the lead inserts must pass through insertion holes in the body of the multiple electrode assembly to create an electrical connection between the wires and lead connectors and the user's skin. The lead insertions of this particular embodiment have a different shape than those of the embodiment depicted in Figure 2 to receive the wires and lead connectors. However, the need for passage of a portion of the lead inserts through insertion holes as depicted in Figure 2 still applies to the embodiment depicted in Figure 5. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 1, as amended, overcomes the 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejection because it has been amended to include the invention having insertion holes being placed in the body in pairs, each of the four corners having one pair and the middle having one pair. Support for the amendment to specify that the insertion holes are placed in the body in pairs, each of the four corners having one pair and the middle having one pair is found in the Specification at p. 4, lines 5-7, p. 8, lines 6-7, and in Fig. 5. Although the cited and relied upon Minogue (6,134,480) discloses that more complex embodiments of the invention may include more than two electrodes 18 in the electrode assembly 10 (column 2, lines 66-67 and column 3, line 1), Minogue does not disclose arranging the electrodes in pairs with one pair at each corner and one pair in the middle. The dependent claims 2-14 add additional novel features to the independent claims recited above and thus are submitted to be a-fortiori, patentable.

Claim 15, as amended, overcomes the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection because it has been amended to include the invention having insertion holes being placed in the body in

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pairs, each of the four corners having one pair and the middle having one pair. Support for the amendment to specify that the insertion holes are placed in the body in pairs, each of the four corners having one pair and the middle having one pair is found in the Specification at p. 4, lines 5-7, p. 8, lines 6-7, and in Fig. 5. Although the cited and relied upon Minogue (6,134,480) discloses that more complex embodiments of the invention may include more than two electrodes 18 in the electrode assembly 10 (column 2, lines 66-67 and column 3, line 1), Minogue does not disclose arranging the electrodes in pairs with one pair at each corner and one pair in the middle. The dependent claims 13-17 add additional novel features to the independent claims recited above and thus are submitted to be a-fortiori, patentable.

The dependent claims 2-14 and 16-19 add additional novel features to the independent claims recited above and thus are submitted to be a-fortiori, patentable.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that:

Claims 1-20, as amended, recite distinctions that are of patentable merit under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. 103(a) for the independent claims and thus for each dependent claim as well. Specifically, insertion holes being placed in the body in pairs, each of the four corners having one pair and the middle having one pair, and lead attachments comprising a lead insertion, a wire with opposite ends with one end attached to the lead insertion, and a lead connector attached to the opposite end of the wire was unsuggested among the prior art references.

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Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 6, 2006

Certificate of Facsimile

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by fax to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 571-273-8300 on the date shown below.

Anthony Edw. J Campbell



Monday, March 06, 2006